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NORTH-AMERICAN REVIEW

AND

MISCELLANEOUS JOURNAL.

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A briefe narration of the originall undertakings of the advancement of plantations, into the parts of America, especially shewing the beginning, progress and continuance of that of New-England. Written by the right worshipfull Sir Ferdinando Gorges, Knight and Governour of the Fort and Island of Plymouth in Devonshire. London, printed by E. Brudenell for Nath. Brook at the Angell in Cornhill, 1658.

SIR FERDINANDO GORGES was one of the earliest and most persevering of those gentlemen in England who undertook to colonize this country. His engaging in it, seems to have arisen in part from an accident. Captain Waymouth had been employed by Lord Arundel to attempt the discovery of a North-West passage: while engaged in this, he landed on the shore of Maine, and took away some of the natives. On his arrival at Plymouth Sir Ferdinando Gorges, who was the Governour, took away three of them which he kept three years, and it was the information obtained from these, that induced him to engage in the scheme of forming a colony. The first effort made by him and his associates was to send a hundred people, who landed and passed the winter at Sagadahock in 1607. The next year

they returned home, and it was several years afterwards before the permanent settlement was made at Plymouth. The original company comprehended very extensive grants in their charter. Indeed, at the outset, the whole coast of the United States was divided between two companies, that of Virginia and New-England. These were successively subdivided; and finally, in 1631, a further division took place, when Sir Ferdinando Gorges received for his share what he calls the Province of Maine, this name owed its origin to him; but his grant took in only a part of that District, and a part of what is now New-Hampshire. We shall make one extract as a specimen of his manner: It does not appear exactly at what time the work was written, but probably about 1632.

“Chapter 8.” The sending supplies to the Colonie and the unhappie death of the Lord Cheife Justice (Popham) before their departure.

The supplies being furnished and all things ready onely attending for a faire wind, which hapned not before the news of the cheife justice death was posted to them, to be transported to the discomfort of the poor planters, but the ships arriving there in good time, was a great refreshing to those that had had their store house and most of their provisions burnt the winter before.

Besides that they were strangely perplexed with the great and unseasonable cold they suffered, with that extremity, as the like hath not been heard of since, and it seemes was universall, it being the same yeare that our *Thames* were so lockt up that they built their boates upon it, and sould provisions of severall sorts to those that delighted in the novelties of the times, but the miseries they had past, were nothing to that they suffered by the disasterous news they received of the death of the Lord cheife justice, that suddainely followed the death of their President, but the latter was not so strange, in that he was well stricken in years before he went, and had long been an infirme man. Howsoever heartned by hopes, willing he was to die in acting something that might be serviceable to God, and honorable to his country, but that of the death of the cheif justice was such a corrosive to all, as struck them with despaire of future remedy, and it was the more augmented,

when they heard of the (death of) Sir *John Gilbert*, elder brother of *Ralph Gilbert* that was then their President, a man worthy to be beloved of them all for his industry, and care for their well being; the President was to return to settle the state his brother had left him, upon which all resolved to quit the place, and with one consent to away, by which meanes all our former hopes were frozen to death, though Sir *Francis Popham* could not so give it over, but continued to send thither severall years after in hope of better fortunes, but found it fruitlesse and was necessitated at last to sit down with the losse he had already undergone.

America painted to the life, a true history of the originall undertakings of the advancement of Plantations into those parts, with a perfect relation of our English Discoveries, shewing their beginning, progress, and continuance, from the year 1628 to 1658, declaring the forms of their government, Policies, Religions, Manners, Customs, Military Discipline, Warres with the Indians, the Commodities of their Countries, a Description of their Townes, and Havens, the increase of their trading, with the names of their Governours and Magistrates. More especially an absolute Narrative of the North parts of America and of the discoveries and plantations of our English in New England. Written by Sir Ferdinando Gorges Knight and Governour of the Fort and Island of Plimouth in Devonshire, one of the first and cheifest promoters of those Plantations. Published since his decease, by his Grand-child Ferdinando Gorges Esquire, who hath much enlarged it and added severall accurate descriptions of his owne. A work now at last exposed for the publick good, to stir up the heroick and active spirits of these times to benefit their Country, and eternize their names by such honorable attempts. For the reader's clearer understanding of the Country's, they are lively described in a compleat and exquisite map. Vivit post funera virtus. London: Printed by E. Brudenell, for Nathaniel Brook, dwelling at the Angel in Cornhill 1658. 4to. pp. 60.

This is altogether a different work from the one mentioned in the last article. It contains a preface by the elder

Gorges, as well as another by his grandson, but how much of the work was written by the former is difficult to discover. It brings the account of the settlements made and towns incorporated in Massachusetts to the year 1648. The author makes a hasty mention of all the Spanish settlements on the Continent, as well as of all the different Islands of the West Indies, and a brief account of Virginia, before he commences with New England. In speaking of Virginia, which at that time comprehended Maryland and North Carolina, he has this observation; "and great profit is derived from the commodities which Virginia produceth, the chiefe of which are Pitch, Tarre, Soapashe, Rosen, Flax, Cordage, Wainscot, Glasse and such like." We presume that at this day very few of the articles here enumerated, are exported from Virginia of her own production.

The following extract is from his account of New-England. "But before I come to the more exact description of the Country and the commodities thereof, it will be convenient to prosecute the remainder of the history, and to give a brief account of all the most materiall passages that have hapned within these few yeares last past. In the yeare 1628 after a perfect discovery had been made, which was chiefly effected by my Grandfather's vast charges, and his unwearied paines, and travaile in the businesse, and that a large gap was opened to the free possession of that Country; people of all sorts flocked thither in great numbers, especially such as were discontented at the form of Church Government then settled in this nation, and had retired to *Holland* for liberty of conscience, as hath been before specified. The Indians about the time beheld to their great amazement that blazing Comet, so much noted in Europe, which appeared after sunsetting in their horizon South West for the space of thirty sleeps, (for so they reckon their daies) after which uncouth sight, they expected some strange things to follow, the whole nation of the *Massachusetts* having been a little before that, affrighted with the arrivall of a ship of ours in their bay, wondring exceedingly what strange creature it should be, when they beheld a great thing moving toward them upon the water, especially when having let fly their arrows at it out of their Canous, thinking to have killed it, the Master caused a piece of ordnance to be fired, whereby the poor *Indians* struck with a panick feare hastened to the shore; but when our men ap-

peared and produced their copper Kettles, they were by degrees invited to trade with us for Beaver skins; the summer after the blazing star (which moved from East to West) even a little before the English removed from *Holland* to *Plimouth* in *New England*, there befell a very great mortality among the Indians, the greatest that had ever hapned in the memory of man, or been taken notice of by tradition, laying desolate the East, and by the Northern parts the County of *Pockankie*, *Agissawam*; the *Aborginny* men consisting of *Wippanaps*, *Tarantines*, and the *Sagamore-ships*, or petty kingdoms of the *Massachusetts*, the *Nianticks*, *Narronganssitts*, and *Pecods*, their *Powows* or *Doctors* were amazed to see their wigwams or streets lie full of dead bodies, and neither *Squantam* their good nor *Abbamock* their bad God could help them, which very much facilitated the landing of the *English* not long after in *Plimouth* plantation; who coming but with a handful of men found little or no resistance, being onely sent to keep possession for the brethren who arrived eight daies after, when the natives appearing with their bows and arrows, let fly their long shafts among them; but one *Captain Miles Standish* with his fowling peice shot the stoutest Sachem among the Indians, on the right arm, as he was reaching an arrow from his quiver, whereupon they all fled away with great speed through the woods and thickets." p. 26.

The Comet, its motion from East to West, the first apparition of a ship, the pestilence that swept off the natives, previous to the landing of the first adventurers, will all furnish picturesque materials for the poet.

Those persons, who take an interest in the subject of our climate, may be amused at the author's ideas on this subject. "The country being scituate in the midst of the temperate zone, in the space between the Artick circle, and the Tropic of Cancer, one would think it should enjoy the same temperature of ayr, as France and some part of Italy, but we find the contrary, for that part which borders upon the sea, is of coulder ayr, partly by reason of the nearnesse of the sea, the mounting of whose waves breaks the reflexion of the sunbeams, partly by reason of the abundance of vapours, which on mounting upward abate the ardour of them: but the more inland parts of the Country are indifferently warme, and it hath been found by certain experience that those countries which look toward the rising of the sun,

are colder than those which lie toward the West or sunsetting, and those which have the evening windes on them are warmer than those which have the morning windes, which being so, it follows that the temperature of the ayr in those regions is most proper and peculiar to the bodies of those of our nation, who being accustomed to a climate somewhat temperate, are neither able to endure extremity of cold, nor immoderate heat." p. 45.

The strange and delectable history of the discoverie and conquest of the Provinces of Peru in the South Sea. And of the notable things which there are found: and also of the bloudie ciuill varres vvhich there happened for gouernment. Written in foure bookes by Augustine Sarate, auditor for the Emperour his Maiestie in the same prouinces and firme land. And also of the ritche mines of Potosi. Translated out of the Spanish tongue, by T. Nicholas. Imprinted at London by Richard Jhones, dwelling ouer against the Faulcon, by Holburne bridge 1581. Black letter, 4to.

THIS is a history with rather minute details of the first discovery and conquest of Peru and the adjoining Provinces. The insatiable avarice of the Spaniards inspired them with such a spirit of daring enterprise, and such inflexible fortitude in suffering, that a mere handful of men were sufficient to overrun those beautiful countries, which were swarming with population. The unfortunate Indians, though they were accustomed to war with each other, opposed their myriads in vain to the weapons, the skill, and the courage of their invaders. The achievements of the three Pizarros, Almagro, de Castro, Benalcazar, Alvarado, &c. &c. seem almost incredible. The weakness of the natives fortified the presumption and confidence of these captains, to such a degree, that although they had only a few companies of men under their command, and were surrounded by innumerable crowds of hostile Indians, they paid but slight deference to the mother country, and soon fell into violent quarrels with each other, in the course of which the wretched Peruvians were revenged for their sufferings, by the Spaniards themselves. Most of the original invaders, both officers and soldiers, perished in fighting with each other.

The following extracts will give an idea of the style.

The first relates some of the customs of the Peruvians, and a remarkable piece of policy in the sovereign. The next says something of the Amazons ; and gives the origin of rats in South America. The last is a comparison of Pizarro and Almagro.

“ These Indians dwell not in houses, but their abiding is under trees, and shadowes made for the purpose. Their women were garments made of cotton woll, like unto gownes which come downe to their feete. The men were shirtes downe to the knees, and certain mantels upon the same, and although their attire is after one sorte, they differ in the attire of their heads, accordynge to the use of euery countrey : some use their haire bounde up with laces of woll, some with one lace, and other with many laces of sundry colours, so there is none but hath some deuice in his hed, and in euery prouince of a seuerall kinde.”

“ All the Indians of the playnes are deuided into three sortes, the one are called Yngas, another sorte are called Tallanes, and the thirde Mochicas : in euery prouince they differ in speeche, notwithstandinge the noblemen, called Caseikes, besides their natural speech doo all generally understande the language of the cittie of Cusco, because the kinge of Peru, called Guaynacaua, father of kinge Atabalipa, thought it a base thinge that his subiectes, especially noble men, should talk with him by interpreters, whereupon he commaunded that all the Caseikes of his country and dominions, and their brethren and kinsmen should sende their children to serue and attende on the kinge in his court, under the colour to learn the courtly speeche : but cheefely the kinge’s intente was to assure his countrey with the principall men of his kingdome, in hauinge their children in pledge. But bee as it will, by this meanes it came to passe, that all the nobilitie of his lande, understoode and could speake the language used in court, as in Flaunders the Gentilmen and others speake the Frenche tongue : so that in conclusion, any Spanyarde that attained to the Cusco speeche, mought wel passe through the dominions of Peru, as well in the playnes as in the mountaynes, to understand and to be understood among the cheefest.” Chap. 6, B. 1.

“ The Indians of Chili goe apparelled like unto the Indians of Peru, both men and women are of a good iesture and feede ordinarily of such meates as those of Peru. Be-

yond Chili 33 degrees from the line, are two greate men of power, which maintaine alwayes war, the one against the other, and eche of them is of power to bringe into the feelde 200,000 men of war: the one was named Leuchengorma, which is lord of an island, which standeth two leagues from the firme land, dedicated to his idols, in which Island standeth a great temple, whereunto appertained 2000 preestes."

"The Indians of this Leuchengorma, informed the Spanyardes, that 50 leagues beyond that place, between two rivers, was a great prouince all inhabited with wemen, which consente not to haue any sorte of men among them, except a certaine time convenient for generation: and then if any happen to bee with childe, and bringe forth men children, they are after certain yeares sent to their fathers, and the daughters which they likewise beare, remaineth with them: these wemen also are in subiection to Leuchengorma. The Queene of these wemen is called Guayboymilla, which in their language, is as much as to say Heauen of Golde, because the reporte was that great quantitie of Gold groweth there, and thereof they make exceedinge ritch cloth, and of all their commodities they pay tribute to Leuchengorma. And although often times the Spanyardes haue had notice of this countrey, yet they neuer tooke the discovery in hande, because Don Diego would not abide to inhabit in the coast: and also sithence that time, Pedro de Valdiuia was sent to inhabit the countrey, who would not bring his desire of furniture to passe, conuenient for the voiage, although he hath inhabited three degrees beyond the Equinoctial southward, and also perfect knowledge of habitation was known to bee vnto 40 degrees alonge that coast, especiallye one shippe, which Don Gabriell de Carouiall, Bishop of Placentia, sent in discouery, which had passed through the Strayght of Magalanes, who from the said straite came sayling along that coast northward, untill he arriued at the port of the cittie of the kinges, and before the coming of this shippe there was no memory of Rats found in all Peru, so that it seemed that the first broode of Rats came out of that ship and sithence that time, al the citties of Peru are replenished with aboundance; it is thought that among chests and fardels of marchandize they were carried from place to place: whereupon the Indians do name them Ococha, which is to say, a vermine comen out of the sea." Chap. 2, B. 3.

“ Chap. 9. Of the customes and qualities of the Marquesse, *Don Francisco Pizarro*, and the discoverer, *Don Diego de Almagro*.”

“ Sithens this historie and discovery of the Prouince of Peru, hath origen from the two valiant Captaines, of whom hyther unto we have spoken. Who are the Marquesse *Don Francisco Pizarro* and *Don Diego de Almagro*: It is meete and conuenient to write theyr customes and qualities, comparing them together, as *Plutarchus* vseth, when he writeth of two Captaines, which are in any respect comparable one to the other: and touching the lynage of these our Captaines, at the beginning of this historie, is written as much as could be knowen. But in the residue they were both valiaunt persons of great courage, they were also great sufferers of paynes and trauails, and verie vertuous, they were freends to doo plesure to al men, at theyr owne cost. They were much lyke of inclynation, especially in the state of lyuing, for neyther of them was married, although the youngest of them bothe at the tyme of theyr death, was about three score and five yeeres of age.”

“ They were both inclined to affayres of warres, although *Don Diego de Almagro*, when occasion of warres wanted, applied himselfe to thinges of gaynes: they were neere of one age, when they tooke the conquest of Peru in hande, in which discoverie and conquest, they tooke the paynes which hath bene declared, although the Marquesse dyd suffer greater trauaile, and passed greater peryls than *Don Diego*. For whylst the one was occupied in the greatest part of the discoverie, the other abode in Panama, prouiding necessities and furniture for him, as lykewise hath bene declared. They were both noble minded and alwayes they pretended and conceyued haughty thinges, they were gentle and amyable to their soldiours, they were equall in lyberallitie: although in shewe *Don Diego* had the aduantage, because he loued that his gift should be published and blowne abroade: into which condition the Marquesse was contrarie, for he would not permit that his lyberal gifts should be spoken of: but rather procured to have them kept in secrete, hauing more respect to prouide for the necessitie of such as wanted them, than to obtain a vainglorious report.”

“ It once happened that a poore soldiour, had his cheefe ritches in a horse, which dyed of an unknown disease, of which mishap the Marquesse hauing understanding, and

coming downe into his Tennis Court, thinking to find the poor soldiour there, he brought in his bosom a wedge of golde, of ten pound weight to giue unto him with his owne hands: and not finding him there at that instant, he chaunced to make a match at play, and without putting off his coate, he played his match, because he would not that any should see the wedge of gold which was in his bosom. The play continued the space of three houres, and then came the soldiour for whome the golde was brought, the which he deliuered unto him secretly, saying: that he had rather haue giuen him three times as much, then to suffer the paynes, which he had taken in his long tarrying: with many other lyke examples, which might at length be spoken of."

"So that alwayes the Marquesse almes and giftes were distributed by his owne handes, and with as much secresie as might be, yea, and alwayes procured the receyuers to keepe silence: and for this consideration, *Don Diego* was held to be more liberall, for although he gaue largely, yet he had a forme how it should seeme much more than it was: notwithstanding, touching this vertue of magnificence, they may justly be called equall. The Marquesse also was wont to say, that considering the company of aduventure and fellowship made betweene them, that neither of them could give any thing wherein the other had not his part and therefore as lyberall was he, which permitted the other to give: and for comprobation this shall seme—That where they were bothe the ritcheest men, both in rent and treasure, and as lyberally might dispend the same, as any Prince in the world, not hauing a kingely crowne: yet they came bothe to death with great pouertie: that at this day there is not any remembrance of any thing proper, which was theirs; sauing, that of all theyr goods and lands, they had not wherewithal to burie them: as the lyke is written of *Cato* and *Silla* and of many other Romane Captaynes, which were buried of almes."

"These two valiant Captaines, were affectioned to doo for theyr seruants and souldiours, bothe to enricht them, and to deliuer them from peryls. But the Marquesse dyd rather in that respect exceed; for once it happened, passing the River called Barzanca, that the great Currant carried away one of his indians of seruice, which by mishap was fallen therein; and when the Marquesse sawe the peryl of his seruauant, he forthwith stripped himselfe, and leapt into the

Riuer, hauing good skill of swimming, and pluckt him out by the haire of his head: putting himself in great daunger, through the extreame force of the Current, in such sort that the valiantest man in all his host, durst not take the lyke enterprize in hande: whereupon some of his Captaines dyd reprehend his ouer much boldnesse, vnto whome he answered, Ye know not what thing it is to loue a seruant well."

"Although the Marquesse gouerned long time, and more quietly: yet *Don Diego* was more ambitious, and desirous of rule and dignitie. Bothe of them conuerued antiquitie, in thyre ordinarie apparell, euen from their youth upwardes, especially the Marquesse, who euer used to wear ordinarily a Coate of black cloth, with long quarters, and short wasted, his shoes of a white Deere skin, and a white felt hat, and his Sworde and Dagger of ancient facion. And when through the importunate request of his seruants, vpon any solemne holy day, he happened to weare a Gowne furred with Martins, which the Lord Marquesse Cortes had sent to him from New Spaine: as soone as he came from Church, he would throw it from him, and vsed to haue a towell about his necke. In the tyme of Peace, he vsed much to play at Tennis, or at Bowles, and therefore cheeflie he vsed the Towell about his necke, to wype the sweate from his face."

"Bothe these Captaynes were most patient in paynestaking, and also in any extremitie of hunger: But particularly the Marquesse shewed the same in the exercise of the sayde pastimes, for there were very fewe young men that could endure with him. He was also more inclyned to any kinds of pastime than *Don Diego*, so that many tymes he would play at the Bowles all the whole day, and passed not with whom he played, although it were eyther Marriner or Myller, nor yet would permitte any to take up his Bowle for him, nor to use towarde him any vsuall ceremonies of duty, accustomed to his Estate and dignitie. It was some waighty matter that should cause him to leaue from play, especially when he was a looser. But if at any tyme he had advertisement of rebellion, or insurrection of Indians, then forthwith his Armor was at hand, and Launce in readinesse, he vsed in such extremities, to ryde poste alone through the Cittie, towarde the place where the altercation was, without tarying for more company."

“These Captaynes were so ready, and of such haughty courage in the Indian warre, that eyther of them would not let to giue the encounter, although the epemies were in number 100,000. They were of good understanding and judgment in any thing that was to be provided for the warres or for gouernment: especially being bothe men vnlearned, for they could neyther write, reade, or yet firme, which was a thing of great defect in such noble Personages, dealing in such waighty affayres. Yet neuerthelesse, in all other thinges of vertuous inclynations, they shewed themselves to be noble men, onely the former want excepted, wherein the auncient wyse men, dyd hold such want for an argument of basenesse of lynage.”

“The Marquesse was a man that had great confidence in his seruants and freendes; All the dispatches which he made as well in gouernment, and reprehencion of Indians, he vsed to make two markes, betweene the which, *Antonio Picardo*, his Secretary, fyrmed the name of *Francisco Pissarro*. But these men may excuse themselves as *Ouidius* excused *Romulus*, saying: that he was an euyll astronomer, but rather had more knowledge in Armies then in Letters.”

“Bothe these Captaynes were so affable and playne, among theyr people, that they vsed oftentimes to goe from house to house in the Cittie, to visit thyr neyghbours alone, and tooke such fare as they founde, and were alwayes willing to come to any honest neyghbour, that would inuite eyther of them. They were equally abstynent, and moderate in theyr feeding and dyet, as also in refraining of sensualitie, and especially from abusing of any Spanish women: for they deemed that they could not deale therein, without preiudice of theyre neyghbours, whose wiues or daughters, those women were: they neyther ouermuch inclyned to the Indian women.”

“The Marquesse had the company of an Indian Gentlewoman, who was sister to *Atabalipa*, by whome he had a sonne, named *Don Gonsalo*, who deceased at fourteene yeeres of age: and a daughter named *Donna Francisca*. By another Indian woman of Cusco he had another sonne called *Don Francisco*.

“*Don Diego de Almagro*, had that sonne of whom we have spoken, who slewe the Marquesse, which sonne he had by an Indian woman of Panama. They bothe receyued honour at the Emperour's hands, for as hath beene declared,

to *Don Francisco Pizarro*, he gaue the tyttle or addition of Marquesse, and made him Governour of Newe Castile, and also ordayned him Knight of the order of Saint James."

"To *Don Diego de Almagro*, he gaue the gouernment of Newe Toledo, and the tyttle of cheefe Discouerer. Particularly the Marquesse was greatly affectioned, and helde in greate feare and reuerence the name of his Maies- tie: insomuch that he abstayned from dooing of many thinges that he had power to doo, declaring that he would not that his Maies- tie should say, how he ascended in the land: and oftentimes when he was present at the melting of the Sylver and Golde, he would ryse from his chayre, to take up the graynes of Sylver and Golde, which fell from the clypping saying: that with his mouth when handes fayled, he woulde gather together the kinge's portion."

"These two Gentlemen, were equall euen in theyre kindes of death, for the Marquesse brother, put *Don Diego* to death, and *Don Diego* his sonne slewe the Marquesse. The Marquesse was desirous to benefit the Countrey, by tyllage and other commodities."

"He built a fayre house in the Cittie of the Kinges: he also built for the benefite of the Cittie, two rowes of mylles, along the Riuer's side, in which buylding he occupied him- selfe at all tymes of leysure, giuing his counsell and opinion to all to the Maister workmen: He tooke great paynes in setting forwarde the workes of the Cathedrall Church of the Cittie of the Kinges, and other lyke monuments."

This book is curious as a specimen of early typography and for the block engravings, with which it is ornamented; but these peculiarities it is not necessary here to describe.

FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

SIR,

If the following minutes, relating to the Russian and American settlements on the North-West Coast of America, and which were hastily written down from the verbal communications of a friend, who visited those settlements, will gratify the curiosity of your readers, they are at your service.

C. D.

To the Editor.